## Press Release

The World Bank, acting as administrator for the Global Partnership on Output-Based Aid (GPOBA), has agreed to provide a grant assistance of US\$4.2million (equivalent to NRS 362.5 million) to the Government of Nepal for the implementation of Solid Waste Management Project.

The grant agreement to this effect was signed between the Government of Nepal and the The World Bank, at the Ministry of Finance, Kathmandu, on March 25, 2013.

The aim of this project is to improve access to high quality and financially sustainable solid waste management (SWM) services in participating municipalities in Nepal. The grant will finance service delivery subsidies for each participating municipality, over a four (4) year period, to cover the gap between the costs of delivering solid SWM services and the beneficiary revenues collected through SWM fees, provided that the said services meet verified minimum performance criteria.

The project will initially target five municipalities (Tansen, Dhankuta, Lalitpur, Leknath and Pokhara) and benefit an estimated total of 800,000 people. The Solid Waste Management Technical Support (SWMTSC) and the Town Development Fund (TDF) will jointly provide technical and project management support to the participating municipalities to implement the activities covered by the output-based aid (OBA) grant.

The Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) shall extend the necessary guidance and support to the Programme and ensure collaboration of the Municipalities. The programme will be continued until December 30, 2016

The grant agreement was signed by Mr. Madhu Kumar Marasini, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Ms. Tahseen Sayed, The World Bank, Country Manager for Nepal on behalf of the World Bank.

The Government of Nepal has expressed its sincere appreciation to the World Bank for this assistance and also for the continued support in the socio-economic development of Nepal.

Ministry of Finance Singha Durbar, Kathmandu March 25, 2013 चैत्र १२, २०६९